

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1           1.       (Currently Amended) A method for matching a color with a corresponding color  
2 in a defined color space, comprising:  
3               scanning an object having the color to be matched to produce a color image data  
4               signal representative of said object;  
5               mapping said color image data signal to the defined color space to ascertain the  
6               corresponding color; and  
7               ~~informing a user~~ determining an identity of the corresponding color; and  
8               sending the identity of the corresponding color over a network to a website.

1           2.       (Cancelled)

1           3.       (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the identity of the  
2 corresponding color ~~[[has]]~~ comprises a reference number ~~associated therewith~~, and wherein  
3 sending the identity ~~the step of informing a user~~ of the corresponding color comprises ~~the step of~~  
4 ~~informing the user of~~ sending the reference number associated with said corresponding color.

1           4.       (Original) The method of claim 3, further comprising, using said reference  
2 number to match a color with the color to be matched.

1           5.       (Original) The method of claim 3, further comprising, displaying said reference  
2 number.

1           6.       (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising, selecting a color region on  
2 said object, the color region containing said color to be matched.

1           7.       (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising, selecting a color region of  
2 said color image data signal, the color region containing said color to be matched.

1           8.       (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said object comprises a plurality of  
2 colors, and further comprising selecting one of said plurality of colors as said color to be  
3 matched.

1           9.       (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said object has a texture, and further  
2 comprising processing said color image data signal to remove the influence of said texture from  
3 the color image data signal.

1           10.      (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said defined color space comprises the  
2 Pantone Matching System.

1           11.      (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein mapping said color image data signal  
2 to the defined color space to ascertain the corresponding color comprises using a color look-up  
3 table.

1           12.      (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein said color image data signal  
2 comprises a plurality of pixels, each having a red tristimulus value, a green tristimulus value, and  
3 a blue tristimulus value associated therewith, and wherein mapping said color image data signal  
4 to the defined color space to ascertain the corresponding color further comprises:  
5                computing an average red tristimulus value, an average green tristimulus value,  
6                and an average blue tristimulus value from the red, green and blue tristimulus values of  
7                one or more of said plurality of pixels; and  
8                inputting the average red, green, and blue tristimulus values into said color  
9                look-up table to obtain the corresponding color.

1           13.     (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein said color image data signal  
2 comprises a plurality of pixels, each having a red tristimulus value, a green tristimulus value, and  
3 a blue tristimulus value associated therewith, and wherein mapping said color image data signal  
4 to the defined color space to ascertain the corresponding color further comprises:

5                 inputting the red, green and blue tristimulus values of one or more of said  
6 plurality of pixels into said color look-up table to obtain one or more reference numbers;  
7 and

8                 computing an average reference number from said one or more reference  
9 numbers, the average reference number identifying said corresponding color.

1           14.     (Currently Amended) A system for matching a color with a corresponding color  
2 in a defined color space, comprising:

3                 scanning apparatus, said scanning apparatus ~~scanning to scan~~ an object having the  
4 color to be matched, said scanner apparatus ~~producing to produce~~ a color image data  
5 signal representative of said object; and

6                 a computer operatively associated with said scanner apparatus, said computer  
7 ~~mapping to:~~

8                         in response to user selection, select a color region of the color image data  
9 signal representative of said object;

10                        determine a dominant color from a plurality of colors in the selected color  
11 region;

12                        map a portion of said color image data signal corresponding to the  
13 dominant color to the defined color space to ascertain an identity of the corresponding  
14 color; and

15                        present the identity of the corresponding color to a user; ~~said computer~~  
16 ~~informing a user of the corresponding color.~~

1           15. – 17. (Cancelled)

1           18.   (Original) The system of claim 14, wherein said object has a texture, and further  
2 comprising,

3                   at least one computer readable storage device operatively associated with said  
4 computer; and

5                   computer readable program code for removing the influence of the texture from  
6 said color image data signal, the computer readable program code being stored on said at  
7 least one computer readable storage device.

1           19.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 14, further comprising:

2                   at least one computer readable storage device operatively associated with said  
3 computer; and

4                   a color look-up table stored on the at least one computer readable storage device,  
5 said computer using the color look-up table when mapping said portion of the color  
6 image data signal to the defined color space to ascertain the identity of the corresponding  
7 color.

1           20.   (Original) The system of claim 14, wherein said defined color space comprises  
2 the Pantone Matching System.

1           21.   (New) The method of claim 1, wherein sending the identity of the corresponding  
2 color to the website comprises sending the identity of the corresponding color to a shopping  
3 website for purchasing a product having the corresponding color.

1           22.   (New) The method of claim 7, further comprising randomly selecting pixels in  
2 the selected color region, wherein mapping said color image data signal to the defined color  
3 space comprises mapping a portion of the color image data signal corresponding to the randomly  
4 selected pixels to the defined color space.

1           23.   (New) The method of claim 7, further comprising determining a dominant color  
2 in the selected color region using histograms representing respective colors,  
3               wherein mapping said color image data signal to the defined color space  
4 comprises mapping a portion of the color image data signal corresponding to the  
5 determined dominant color to the defined color space.

1           24.   (New) The system of claim 14, wherein the computer determines the dominant  
2 color in the selected color region using histograms representing the plurality of colors.

1           25.   (New) An article comprising a storage device containing program code that when  
2 executed cause a system to:  
3               receive color image data representing an object scanned by a scanner, wherein the  
4 object has a texture;  
5               process the color image data to remove influence of the texture, the processing  
6 producing a de-texturized color image data; and  
7               map the de-texturized color image data to determine a corresponding color in a  
8 defined color space.

1           26.   (New) The article of claim 25, wherein the program code when executed cause  
2 the system to send an identity of the corresponding color over a network to a website.

1           27.   (New) The article of claim 26, wherein sending the identity of the corresponding  
2 color to the website comprises sending the identity of the corresponding color to a shopping  
3 website for purchasing a product having the corresponding color.

1           28.   (New) A system comprising:

2                   a storage device to store information representing a defined color space; and

3                   a processor to:

4                           receive color image data representing an object scanned by a scanner;

5                           map the color image data to a corresponding color in the defined color

6                   space;

7                           determine an identity of the corresponding color; and

8                           communicate the identity of the corresponding color to a website.

1           29.   (New) The system of claim 28, wherein the processor is adapted to send the

2   identity of the corresponding color to a shopping website in response to user selection to enable a

3   purchase of a product containing the corresponding color.

1           30.   (New) The system of claim 28, wherein the processor is adapted to, in response

2   to user selection, select a color region of the color image data, and wherein the processor is

3   adapted to map a portion of the color image data corresponding to the selected color region to the

4   defined color space.

1           31.   (New) The system of claim 30, wherein the processor is adapted to randomly

2   select pixels in the selected color region, and wherein the processor is adapted to map a portion

3   of the color image data corresponding to the randomly selected pixels to the defined color space.

1           32.   (New) The system of claim 30, wherein the processor is adapted to determine a

2   dominant color in the selected color region using histograms representing respective colors, and

3   wherein the processor is adapted to map a portion of the color image data corresponding to the

4   determined dominant color to the defined color space.